WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method of applying a plurality of common metrics to
2   a product lifecycle, said method comprising:
3   identifying a plurality of product phases that
4   correspond to the product lifecycle;

5   selecting one of the common metrics from the plurality
6   of common metrics;

7   applying the selected common metric to each of the
8   plurality of product phases; and

9   executing each of the plurality of product phases
10   using the selected common metric.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2   generating one or more phase goals to correspond to
3   each of the plurality of product phases in response to
4   the applying.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2   receiving one or more feedback responses from one or
3   more feedback sources;

4   analyzing one of the feedback responses; and

5   generating each of the common metrics in response to
6   the analysis.

1   4.   The method of claim 3 further comprising:
2   selecting one of the feedback responses;

3   assigning a weighted priority to correspond to the
4   selected feedback response; and

5   performing the analyzing using the assigned weighted
6   priority.

1   5.   The method of claim 3 wherein at least one of the
2   feedback sources is selected from the group consisting
3   of a customer survey, a help line response, a
4   technical support response, and a field report.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the
2   plurality of product phases is selected from the group
3   consisting of a planning phase, a design phase, a
4   development phase, a test phase, and a release phase.

1   7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the method is performed
2   using an electronic computing device.

1   8.   An information handling system comprising:
2   one or more processors;

3   a memory accessible by the processors;

4   one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by
5   the processors; and

6   a common metric handling tool for applying a plurality
7   of common metrics to a product lifecycle, the common
8   metric handling tool comprising software code
9   effective to:

10   identify a plurality of product phases that
11   correspond to the product lifecycle, the
12   plurality of product phases included in one
13   of the nonvolatile storage devices;

14   select one of the common metrics from the
15   plurality of common metrics located in one
16   of the nonvolatile storage devices;

17   apply the selected common metric to each of
18   the plurality of product phases;

19   execute each of the plurality of product
20   phases using the selected common metric.

1   9.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the
2   software code is further effective to:
3   generate one or more phase goals to correspond to each
4   of the plurality of product phases in response to the
5   applying.

1   10. The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the
2   software code is further effective to:
3   receive one or more feedback responses from one or
4   more feedback sources;

5   analyze one of the feedback responses; and

6   generate each of the common metrics in response to the
7   analysis.

1   11. The information handling system of claim 10 wherein
2   the software code is further effective to:
3   select one of the feedback responses located in one of
4   the nonvolatile storage devices;

5   assign a weighted priority to correspond to the
6   selected feedback response; and

7   perform the analyzing using the assigned weighted
8   priority.

1   12.   The information handling system of claim 10 wherein at
2   least one of the feedback sources is selected from the
3   group consisting of a customer survey, a help line
4   response, a technical support response, and a field
5   report.

1   13.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein at
2   least one of the plurality of product phases is
3   selected from the group consisting of a plan phase, a
4   design phase, a development phase, a test phase, and a
5   release phase.

1   14.   A computer program product stored on a computer
2   operable media for applying a plurality of common
3   metrics to a product lifecycle, said computer program
4   product comprising software code effective to:
5   identify a plurality of product phases that correspond
6   to the product lifecycle;
7   select one of the common metrics from the plurality of
8   common metrics;

9   apply the selected common metric to each of the
10   plurality of product phases; and

11   execute each of the plurality of product phases using
12   the selected common metric.

1   15.   The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the
2   software code is further effective to:

3   generate one or more phase goals to correspond to each

4   of the plurality of product phases in response to the

5   applying.

1   16.   The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the

2   software code is further effective to:

3   receive one or more feedback responses from one or

4   more feedback sources;

5   analyze one of the feedback responses; and

6   generate each of the common metrics in response to the

7   analysis.

1   17.   The computer program product of claim 16 wherein the

2   software code is further effective to:

3   select one of the feedback responses;

4   assign a weighted priority to correspond to the

5   selected feedback response; and

6   perform the analyzing using the assigned weighted

7   priority.

1   18.   The computer program product of claim 16 wherein at

2   least one of the feedback sources is selected from the

3   group consisting of a customer survey, a help line

4   response, a technical support response, and a field

5   report.

1   19.   The computer program product of claim 16 wherein the

2   plurality of feedback corresponds to a first product

3   and wherein the plurality of feedback is applied to a

4   product lifecycle that corresponds to a second

5   product.

1 20. The computer program product of claim 14 wherein at
2   least one of the plurality of product phases is
3   selected from the group consisting of a planning
4   phase, a design phase, a development phase, a test
5   phase, and a release phase.

1 21. A method of applying a plurality of common metrics to
2   a product lifecycle, said method comprising:
3   receiving one or more feedback responses from one or
4   more feedback sources, the feedback responses
5   corresponding to the product lifecycle;

6   analyzing one of the feedback responses;

7   generating each of the common metrics in response to
8   the analysis;

9   identifying a plurality of product phases that
10   correspond to the product lifecycle;

11   selecting one of the common metrics from the plurality
12   of common metrics;

13   applying the selected common metric to each of the
14   plurality of product phases;

15   executing each of the plurality of product phases
16   using the selected common metric.

1 22. A computer implemented method of applying a plurality
2   of common metrics to a product lifecycle, said method
3   comprising:
4   receiving one or more feedback responses from one or
5   more feedback sources, the feedback responses
6   corresponding to the product lifecycle;

7   analyzing one of the feedback responses, wherein the

8   analyzing further includes assigning a weighted

9   priority to correspond to the selected feedback

10   response;

11   generating each of the common metrics in response to

12   the analysis;

13   identifying a plurality of product phases that

14   correspond to the product lifecycle;

15   selecting one of the common metrics from the plurality

16   of common metrics;

17   applying the selected common metric to each of the

18   plurality of product phases; and

19   executing each of the plurality of product phases

20   using the selected common metric.

1   23. An information handling system comprising:

2   one or more processors;

3   a memory accessible by the processors;

4   one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by

5   the processors; and

6   a common metric handling tool for applying a plurality

7   of common metrics to a product lifecycle, the common

8   metric handling tool comprising software code

9   effective to:

10   receive one or more feedback responses from

11   one or more feedback sources, the feedback

12   responses corresponding to the product

13   lifecycle;

14   analyze one of the feedback responses,
15   wherein the analyzing further includes
16   assigning a weighted priority to correspond
17   to the selected feedback response;

18   generate each of the common metrics in
19   response to the analysis;

20   identify a plurality of product phases that
21   correspond to the product lifecycle, the
22   plurality of product phases included in one
23   of the nonvolatile storage devices;

24   select one of the common metrics from the
25   plurality of common metrics located in one
26   of the nonvolatile storage devices;

27   apply the selected common metric to each of
28   the plurality of product phases located in
29   one of the nonvolatile storage devices; and

30   execute each of the plurality of product
31   phases using the selected common metric.

 1   24. A computer program product stored on a computer
 2   operable media for applying a plurality of common
 3   metrics to a product lifecycle, said computer program
 4   product comprising software code effective to:
 5   receive one or more feedback responses from one or
 6   more feedback sources, the feedback responses
 7   corresponding to the product lifecycle;

 8   analyze one of the feedback responses, wherein the
 9   analyzing further includes assigning a weighted

10   priority to correspond to the selected feedback
11   response;

12   generate each of the common metrics in response to the
13   analysis;

14   identify a plurality of product phases that correspond
15   to the product lifecycle;

16   select one of the common metrics from the plurality of
17   common metrics;

18   apply the selected common metric to each of the
19   plurality of product phases; and

20   execute each of the plurality of product phases using
21   the selected common metric.